

WASHINGTON, DC – On Wednesday, April 29, 2009, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi announced that the House Democratic Steering Committee has approved recommendations for committee appointments for Congressman Mike Quigley (D-IL). Quigley will serve the people of Illinois' 5th Congressional District on the House Judiciary Committee and the House Oversight and Government Reform.

"I have spent the last 10 years reforming the Cook County board to protect taxpayers from politics as usual," said Quigley. "From rooting out fraud to promoting transparency, I believe that I have made a difference for Cook County and that is exactly what I plan to do in the United States Congress."

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the main investigative committee in the U.S. House of Representatives. It has the authority to investigate subjects within the Committee's legislative jurisdiction as well as "any matter" within the jurisdiction of the other standing House Committees. Quigley spent ten years on the Cook County Board of Commissioners pushing measures of reform, transparency and accountability. In 2003, he authored a comprehensive report entitled Reinventing Cook County, which laid out a series of proposals to make Cook County government smarter, more transparent, and more efficient. He will work on the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee to improve the performance and accountability of government at every level.

The House Judiciary Committee is charged with overseeing the administration of justice within the federal courts, administrative agencies and Federal law enforcement entities. While serving on Cook County Board of Commissioners, Quigley worked to advance civil liberties, combat violence against women and champion immigration reform. Prior to serving as a Cook County Commissioner, he practiced as a criminal defense attorney for eight years. He will use his experience as a long-time civil rights advocate to contribute to legislative business of the House Judiciary Committee.